

REMARKS

Claims 1-12, as amended, remain herein. Support for the amendment to claims 1 and 7 is found at page 4 of applicants' disclosure. Support for amended claim 9 is found at page 13 of applicants' disclosure. Changes to the other claims are made to more clearly recite the features of applicants' invention and are supported throughout applicants' disclosure.

In response to the Office Action mailed 17, 1999, applicants' hereby provisionally elect, with traverse, to prosecute the claim of Group III, claim 7, in this application.

However, applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement since the subject matter of all of claims 1-12 is sufficiently related that a thorough and complete search for the subject matter of the elected claim would necessarily encompass a thorough search for the subject matter of the non-elected claims. Claims 1-4 are generic to the species, as admitted in the Office Action.

Claims 5-12 have been amended so that the configurations of the projection(s) defined in claim 1 correspond with the respective variations shown in Figs. 7a-7e. All claims should be examined in a single application because Fig. 7a-7e show variations of the

projection(s) provided on the processing roller claimed in claim 1.
All of claims 1-12 have common points in the projection(s) provided
on the processing roller.

Search and examination of all claims of this application can
and should be made, without serious burden. See MPEP §803 which
states: "If the search and examination of an entire application can
be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the
merits." This policy should apply in the present application to
avoid unnecessary delay and expense to applicants and duplicative
examination by the Patent Office.

Respectfully submitted,

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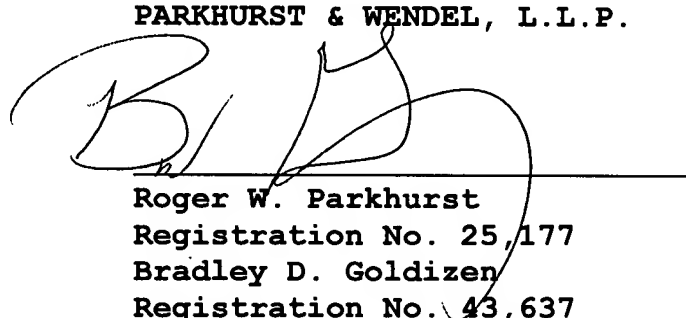
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